

## Village of Matteson Bike Rodeo

The Village of Matteson held our first bike rodeo on Saturday, May 21st. It was a lot of fun and was well attended, with approximately 40 children that went through our course.

We teamed up with Wal-Mart, Toys R Us, Sam's Club, Speedway Gas Station and State Farm Insurance. Wal-Mart was going to have their own bike rodeo that day so we teamed up with them. They donated a bike and bike accessories for giveaways and provided hot dogs and chips. Wal-Mart also had their bike tech on site and he checked out everyone's bike and did minor repairs. Toys R Us donated 2 bikes, Sam's Club donated some granola bars and fruit snacks. Speedway Gas Station donated chips and pop and water. And State Farm Insurance donated 10 bike helmets and brought out their "Good Neigh Bear" mascot. The kids loved him. He stood at the end of the stopping course and high fived the kids when they were done.

We had one of our police bike officers there to show the children how to go through each course. There is a cute photo of a little girl on her big wheel racing him. She was so excited that she beat him.

We had one young boy who came with training wheels on his bike. He was riding very good with them. He took a little tumble and mom said that she thought it was time to take off the training wheels. They took the bike over to the Wal-Mart tech and he took them off. Mom tried to run behind him and keep him steady but she couldn't keep up with him. He was off and flying with his bike. I just thought it was a great thing to experience, watching him take his first ride at our rodeo without his training wheels.



